

*Woman wants someone to pay for her dog

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 the vet. The city didn't take the dog to the clinic, and the city didn't euthanize the dog. The city isn't liable for anything, he said.
 "I was told the dog catcher was called," said Ms. Plotts.
 That's true, said Police Chief Wade Lockhart; it was a courtesy call.
 It was the vet's opinion that it wasn't humane to let the dog go on, said Mayor Riedel. The animal control officer was notified, he said, but it wasn't his call. It was the vet's recommendation to euthanize the dog, as the puppy was sick and it was the humane thing to do.
 The vet, said Mayor Riedel, isn't employed by the city.
 "He didn't go with the city ordinance," said Ms. Plotts. "If he would have, I would have my dog."

The animal control officer, said Mayor Riedel, has to go by city code. The vet, who is under contract with the city, doesn't. He isn't employed by the city.
 There was some discussion about who the private party was, but it appeared no one knew. Mayor Riedel suggested she ask the people at the clinic. If the stories still don't jibe, said Mayor Riedel, then talk to City Administrator Karen Larson and she can call the animal control officer in.
 "Did you ever find out how much was charged for the dog?" asked Councilman Rusty Addleman.
 The price was \$500, said Ms. Plotts, but since the puppy was deaf, it was only going to cost her \$150.
 No motion was made to pay any compensation, so no vote was taken by the council.

*County gets much-needed rain

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 long period of time. A drought also is slow to come out of.
 The storm over the weekend did drop a bunch of rain, said Mr. Floyd, anywhere from four to seven inches.
 According to the weather observer here, Oberlin received 3.01 inches of rain from storms last week. That also was the total precipitation for the month.
 For the year, Oberlin has received 23.28 inches. A year ago at this time, Oberlin had 24.32 inches.
 Mr. Floyd said normal by the end of October for Oberlin is around 21 inches, so the county actually is a little ahead this year.
 Normal for the year, based on figures from 1981 to 2010 is 22.5 inches, said Mr. Floyd.
 There is another "la niña" current developing in the Pacific, he said,

which typically means 10 to 15 percent less snowfall than normal.
 A lot of areas, said Mr. Floyd, have been extremely dry. After the last rain, though, this area looks to be in pretty decent shape.
 Bryan Olson, area agronomist with Kansas State University Research and Extension, said the area needed the rain. Across the western part of the state, he's seen reports of one to four inches, which is fantastic for the crops.
 For the most part, he said, the winter wheat has already been planted in Decatur County. For the wheat that has already emerged, said Mr. Olson, this rain will just continue to help it grow. For the wheat that hasn't emerged, this moisture should help.
 "It's definitely a big rain," he said.

Police called about two black coyotes

The Oberlin Police Department has received a few calls about two black coyotes, or dogs or hybrids, that have shown up in the city.
 Police Chief Wade Lockhart said people have been seeing the black coyotes for a month or better. He said he's not sure if they are coyotes or maybe dogs or dog-coyote mixes, but the animal control officer thinks they are coyotes.
 The animals have gotten into some chickens and geese on the

outskirts of town and have been seen on the high school practice field. Chief Lockhart said they would like to set a live trap to catch the critters. When his car shows up, the coyotes are gone, he said.
 Of the two coyotes, one is all black and another has some white "boots" on its feet and a white tip to its tail.
 The animals are a concern, he said, because they seem to have no fear of people.

School to get cash

Decatur Community High School will receive 15 percent of the total sales generated at the Old Home Bread Store in McCook on Wednesday, Oct. 26.
 Principal Ben Jimenez said he received a call that the high school had won a contest and would not only receive the 15 percent, but also 20 packs of buns or 20 loaves of bread for the school.
 A representative from the store said they had a contest in August. Customers had to spend \$10 to get a coupon for a free loaf of bread. They could then also vote for their favorite school. The Oberlin school won by one vote.

Trivia night planned

The Decatur County Helping Hands for Health Care plan to hold a trivia night at the beginning of November.
 The cost is \$5 a person to enter and teams can have up to 12 people. Anyone who wants to play can reserve a spot by calling Carla Deperschmidt at 475-3452.
 The trivia night, said Mrs. Deperschmidt, is a fund raiser to help county residents with medical expenses. She said the group formed about 2007 and since then has helped about 20 people.
 Registration for the event will begin at 6:30 on Saturday, Nov. 5, at the American Legion Hall in Oberlin. Trivia will start at 7 p.m.

Folding the colors



OUTSIDE THE GRADE SCHOOL after classes on Monday, Celianna Shobe (left) and Emily Howland folded the American Flag while Gavin Cody held the state flag. — Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

Surveys needed by Friday for streets

The City of Oberlin still needs surveys back covering around 100 people in the low-to-moderate income range to qualify for a grant to help repave nine blocks of city streets.
 At a meeting last Thursday, the City Council heard that Steve Zoderow, Sandy Rush and Judy Wenger of the city office have been going door to door, collecting surveys or asking people to fill out them out.
 If the city doesn't get enough

surveys back, said Mayor Bill Riedel, it won't be able to get a Community Development Block Grant. Without the grant, he said, it will take a lot longer for the city to do those streets. He said he hopes people will respond.
 "Please," said Mayor Riedel, "if you haven't, turn in the surveys."
 The city mailed surveys to 888 households in Oberlin. It needs 964 actual people in the low-to-moderate income range, which

is 51 percent of the 2000 census population.
 As of last week, the city was short around 100 people, which doesn't mean 100 surveys because one survey might cover six people in a household.
 If the household falls in the low-to-moderate income category, then all six people are counted in that range.
 Mr. Zoderow said the grant application needs to be postmarked by

Friday, Oct. 28, so he has to have any surveys that haven't been returned back as soon as possible.
 He added that the information collected is kept private and people's names aren't on the survey.

*Council signs papers for possible grant

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 be repaired. City Administrator Karen Larson said she did. She said she looked at a report the engineers prepared and then picked the ones in the worse shape.
 Bernard Goetze, who was in the audience, asked about Victoria Street near the hospital, which has never been paved. He said he drives it in the county transportation bus and it's a disaster when it rains.
 Mayor Bill Riedel said the city plans to use some asphalt millings on unpaved streets. With the grant, he said, the city has to show that the improvements will benefit not just the people who live on the block, but the whole town.
 After a brief hearing, the council

approved the needed resolutions and contracts contingent on receiving the grant money. Mr. Goetze was the only one to ask questions.

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